(b) whether it is also a fact that the main reason attributed to this has been the poor performance by its overseas offices in addition to poor quality of service; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SARAD YADAV): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Air India's share of the passenger traffic to from India has gone down from 24.6% in 1990 to 20.8% in 1999 according to preliminary estimates Air India carried 31,65,872 passengers in 1998-99 as against 21, 61, 364, in 1990-91.

Discontinuance of Calcutta-Tokyo service by AIR INDIA

3221. SHRI DIPANKER MUKHERJEE:
SHRIMATI CHANDRA KALA PANDEY:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India has decided to discontinue its Calcutta-Tokyo flights; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Air India has decided to discontinue the Calcutta-Tokyo flights with effect from 26th March 2000 as the same are now routed *via* Delhi instead of Calcutta. This has been done in order to improve profitability of route by better deployment of aircraft as per demand pattern.

Pilot Training Institute

†3222. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to State:

(a) whether Government are running an institute to impart training to the pilots to fly aircrafts;

(b) if so, the location of this institute alongwith the number of students being admitted every year in the institute; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) what is the average budgetary funds of this institute and whether additional financial aid is also provided to it from time to time by the Government; if so, details of additional aid which has been provided during the last three years

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of India has established Indira Gandhi RashtriyarUran Akademi at Fursatganj in the district of Raebareli, Uttar Pradesh. A total of 20 to 30 students are admitted every year for training them to obtain Commercial Pilots Licence (CPL).

(c) On an average the capital budget of the Akademi is around Rs. 9.00 crores and the revenue budget is around Rs. 2.40 crores per year. This is met through grants-in-aid from the Government. Besides, Air India Limited and Indian Airlines Limited have provided Rs. 2.25 crores and 3.00 crores respectively during the last three years.

Construction of Aerodrome at Kanyakumari

3223. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to State:

(a) whether there is any proposal to establish an aerodrome at Kanyakumari considering of its importance as ~~an~~ international Tourist Centre;

(b) if so, the steps taken to establish the same; and

(c) the estimate of funds to be involved in this project?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Development of Mohanbari Airport at Dibrugarh

3224. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleaed to State:

(a) whether Government have any plan to improve the Mohanbari Airport at Dibrugarh which is the second biggest town of Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and